

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10
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R 031303Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0897
INFO USICA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
USINT HAVANA
AMCONGEN HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USLO PEKING
USMISSION USNATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDIP, PORG, SOPH, RO, CG, DM, ML, SL, CB, CE
SUBJECT: ROMANIAN PRESS COVERAGE OF BELGRADE NAM CONFERENCE:
CURRENT FOREIGN MINISTERIAL VISITS

1. SUMMARY. OFFICIAL ROMANIAN PRESS COVERAGE OF NAM FOREIGN
MINISTERS' CONFERENCE IN BELGRADE WAS VERY EXTENSIVE BY COM-
PARISON WITH COVERAGE GIVEN CSCE, BUT STILL TYPICALLY ROMANIAN,
AND THUS HIGHLY SELECTIVE. SLANT GIVEN BY SELECTIVITY IS
RATHER STRONGLY IMPLIED ENDORSEMENT OF MODERATES' POSITION.
VISITS OF FOREIGN MINISTERS (SIX KNOWN TO DATE) TO BUCHAREST
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CONTINUES ROMANIAN "OPEN DOOR" POLICY, BUT ALSO TENDS TO
REFLECT CURRENT ORIENTATION OF GOR POLICY. END SUMMARY.

2. COVERAGE OF CONFERENCE'S OPENING DAY PROCEEDINGS
INCLUDED LENGTHY SUMMARY OF PRESIDENT TITO'S SPEECH, IN-
CORPORATING SEVERAL BRIEF QUOTES AND A SINGLE LENGTHY ONE:
THE WARNING AGAINST CURRENT ATTEMPTS TO CREATE "NEW FORMS

OF COLONIAL PRESENCE, BLOC DEPENDENCY OR FOREIGN DOMINATION AND INFLUENCE" AGAINST WHICH NAM MUST UNITE. NUMEROUS SUBSEQUENT SPEECHES WERE PARTIALLY SUMMARIZED AND BRIEFLY QUOTED, BUT SELECTIONS WERE CAREFULLY CHOSEN AND EDITED TO STRESS POSITIVE CALLS FOR UNITY AND FOR OPPOSITION TO USUAL EVILS, WITHOUT EVEN HITTING AT DEEP DIFFERENCES OF OPINION DIVING SPEAKERS ON QUALITY OF UNITY OR NATURE OF THREATS. WHETHER SPEAKER WAS CUBAN, EGYPTIAN, TANZANIAN OR SINGAPOREAN, THERE WAS NO INKLING OF POLEMICS AND, OF COURSE, NO REFERENCE WHATEVER TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES.

3. IN ROMULUS CAPLESCJ/RADU BOGDAN EDITORIAL IN RCP DAILY SCINTEIA OF AUGUST 2, WRITERS ACKNOWLEDGED A CONFRONTATION OF OPINIONS, THEN EXPLAINED IT AWAY AS NATURAL IN SO HETEROGENEOUS A GROUPING WHILE STRESSING "PRONOUNCED ACCENT ON THE STRENGTHENING OF NAM'S UNITY AND SOLIDARITY" AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF "COMPLEX INTERNATIONAL CONDITIONS GENDING TO REVIVE DIFFERENCES AND SHARPEN CONFLICTS." THE ECONOMIC DOCUMENT WAS CITED AS CONFIRMING CORRECTNESS OF "PERMANENTLY INVITED GUEST" ROMANIA'S ORIENTATION IN THAT FIELD. THE POLITICAL DECLARATION, STATED EDITORIAL, "STRESSED THE FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVES OF THE STRUGGLE" AGAINST THE OLD EVILS AND AGAINST "ANY FORM OF FOREIGN INTERFERENCE, EXPLOITATION AND DOMINATION AND AGAINST POLITICAL AND MILITARY HEGEMONY." THE EDITORIAL SELECTED BOTH THE PASSAGE DEALING WITH CONFRONTATION IN AFRICA AND THAT CALLING FOR PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DISPUTES AS APPLICABLE TO "THE WHOLE OF INTERNATIONAL LIFE AND ALL AREAS OF THE WORLD...ALL OF MANKIND...WITHOUT GEOGRAPHIC LIMITATIONS."

4. THE FIRST FOREIGN MINISTERS TO TRANSIT BUCHAREST AFTER THE MEETING (ARGENTINA'S MONTES WAS HERE BEFORE GOING TO BELGRADE--BUCHAREST 5156) WHERE KAMPUCHIA'S IENG SARY AND MALI'S BEYE, BOTH ON THEIR WAY TO PEKING. BOTH MET JULY 30 WITH ROMANIAN FM STEFAN ANDREI. COINCIDENTLY, ROMANIAN-KAMPUCHIAN AGREEMENTS SIGNED DURING CEAUSESCU'S MAY VISIT WERE FOMALLY RATIFIED--BUT THE TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION WAS NOT. ON AUGUST 2, PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU RECEIVED FOREIGN MINISTERS OF BENIN (HERE FOR ROMANIAN-BENIN JOINT COMMISSION MEETING) AND SIERRA LEONE (RESPECTIVE AFRICAN AND ROMANIAN AMBASSADORS WERE ALSO PRESENT) AT HIS BLACK SEA RETREAT. CONTEH VISIT PRODUCED SIERRA LEONE-ROMANIAN MEMORANDA ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND ON COMMERICAL AND CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES FOR 1979. TWO ADDITIONAL FOREIGN MINISTERIAL VISITS HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED FOR EARLY AUGUST: ZAIRE AND SRI LANKA, BUT THERE HAS BEEN NO MENTION OF A VISIT BY VIET NAM'S NGYUEN DUY TRINH--PRESENTLY IN BULGARIA.

AGGREY

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